

Appendix A

2005 Online Recreational Fishing Survey

APPENDIX A

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1. Overview

As part of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), Division of Planning and Development study to evaluate *Public Access to Shoreline Recreational Fishing in Narragansett Bay*, an internet-based survey was conducted to gather public input on a variety of aspects related to the study subject. This survey was administered and hosted by the RIDEM on their internet web site (<http://www.dem.ri.gov/>). Visitors browsing to the RIDEM Home Page could access to the survey page/form via a link (hyperlink) at the lower left corner of the home page.

The content of the survey was developed by the consultant team (Gordon R. Archibald, Inc., James H. McKenna, Ph.D.) in conjunction with the RIDEM Review Committee for this project. Questions posed through the survey included the following:

- what type(s) of recreational species the respondent tries to catch;
- what shoreline sites within Narragansett Bay the respondent frequents, the type(s) of fish caught at each location, and the months/seasons when the respondent fishes at each location;
- what features the respondent looks for in a quality shoreline fishing site (ranking several factors by order of importance);
- how often the respondent engages in shoreline fishing;
- how the respondent rates the current condition of shoreline access to recreational fishing in Narragansett Bay.

The survey also included two open-ended questions through which the respondent could (1) suggest a location along the Narragansett Bay shoreline for the potential development of a public fishing pier, and (2) offer any additional comments regarding public shoreline recreational fishing access and/or suggestions on how the State could improve this access. A complete copy of the Online Fishing Survey (as it appeared on the survey web page) is provided as Attachment 1 to this appendix.

The survey was opened to the public beginning June 17, 2005 and remained online through September 20, 2005, during which the RIDEM issued several press releases to make the public aware of the survey and to promote participation. A total of 387 responses were received during the survey period.

The online survey page was configured to transmit completed survey forms directly to the consultant via email. Upon completion of the survey period, the submitted responses were compiled and imported to database and spreadsheet formats for analysis, the results of which are presented herein.

2. Survey Limitations

One of the most important considerations when interpreting the results of this survey is the nature of its implementation. As an online survey, participation required that the potential respondent have access to a computer, the internet, and a level of competency with both to

complete the survey form. An unknown (but potentially significant) portion of the local fishing community may not have had these means to participate (possibly persons from low-income households, elderly individuals, etc.). Language and cultural barriers may have prevented participation by a number of recreational anglers as well. While the RIDEM issued several press releases (many of which were picked up by local newspapers, including the Providence Journal) it is also likely that many potential respondents may not have been aware that this recreational fishing survey was being conducted.

The above limitations notwithstanding, the consultant and RIDEM concurred that, while a public survey was beyond the scope of the project study, an online survey would offer both a cost and time-effective means of gathering data on the current state of shoreline recreational fishing in Narragansett Bay. The information gathered through this survey offers meaningful perspective in the evaluation of the Old Jamestown Bridge Site and other alternative access sites around the bay for potential development and/or improvements.

A basic analysis of responses to each question (or group of questions) posed in the survey is provided in the following section. It should be noted that while several of the survey questions readily lend themselves to the efficient statistical analysis of responses (i.e., questions with a fixed number of possible responses), questions requiring an open-ended text response from the participant are far less conducive in this regard due to the wide range spelling, typographical and format variations of the response entries. For these open-ended questions, a qualitative commentary is provided along with limited quantitative analysis where appropriate. While beyond the time and resource constraints of this study, more rigorous analyses of these responses are possible through manual interpretation, categorization, and tabulation of the data. Both the raw and compiled survey response data have been furnished to the RIDEM should further investigation into the free-response questions be desired.

3. Findings

1. Age / Gender / Town of Residence

The average (mean) age of survey respondents was 46 and the median age was 47. Survey respondents were predominantly male (93%), with 6% of respondents indicating female. Places of residence consisted primarily of cities and towns within Rhode Island, of which both inland and near-shore communities were well represented. As would be expected, a fair number of respondents were from neighboring states (southeast Massachusetts, Connecticut), with a few respondents (most likely seasonal visitors) listing towns of residence in states further removed.

2. When fishing, what recreational species are you trying to catch? (check all that apply)

Rank	Species	% of Respondents Fishing for Species (# Responses)
1	Striped Bass	96% (373)
2	Bluefish	86% (332)
3	Summer Flounder (Fluke)	60% (234)
4	Tautog (Blackfish)	50% (195)
5	Weakfish	33% (128)
6	Scup	33% (126)
7	Black Sea Bass	32% (124)
8	Winter Flounder (Blackback)	23% (90)
9	Squid	19% (74)
10	Menhaden	15% (58)
11	Mackerel	12% (48)
12	Other	12% (46)

Responses indicate a clear affinity by the typical recreational angler for Striped Bass and Bluefish. Summer Flounder and Tautog comprise the group of “second tier” species of recreational interest, both of which were indicated by 50% or more of respondents. Similarly, Weakfish, Scup, and Black Sea Bass were each listed by approximately one-third of respondents and may be considered “third tier” species of recreational interest. The lower interest in Winter Flounder may be due to the fact that this species is highly regulated (e.g., the take of Winter Flounder in the mid- and upper portions of Narragansett Bay is prohibited). Fish listed by those indicating “other” consisted mostly of species less frequently encountered in bay waters (Trout, Herring, Cod, Shad, Bonito) and non-fish (Lobster, Eel).

3. Please list up to five (5) shoreline locations within Narragansett Bay at which you fish. For each location listed, please indicate what species you typically catch at the site, and the approximate time of year you fish at this location (month or season). For location, please be as specific as possible.

**Towns Containing Shoreline Locations
Most Fished From by Respondents**

Town	# of Instances Indicated	Prominently Listed Sites*
Narragansett	357	Narrow River, Black Point, Point Judith, Hazard Ave.
Jamestown	203	Beavertail Point, Town Dock, Potter Cove, Ft. Wetherill, Ft. Getty
Newport	124	Ocean Drive / Brenton Pt. / King's Beach, Ft. Adams, Goat Island Causeway
Warwick	109	Conimicut Point, Chepiwanoxet, Oakland Beach, Goddard Park, Sandy Pt.
North Kingstown	100	Jamestown Bridge, Quonset / Allen Harbor, Wickford Town Dock, URI Bay Campus, Rome Pt.
Bristol	88	Colt State Park, Bristol Narrows
Barrington	86	Town Beach, Bike Path Bridge, Nayatt Point
Tiverton	50	Stone Bridge, Railroad Bridge, Fogland Point
Portsmouth	44	Common Fence Point, Prudence I. T-Wharf, Railroad Bridge
East Providence	41	Sabin Point, Bold Point
Middletown	37	Sachuest Point, Second Beach, Third Beach
East Greenwich	30	Sandy Point, Goddard Park, Chepiwanoxet (all Warwick)
Little Compton	29	Sakonnet Point
Providence	23	India Point Park, Hurricane Barrier
Warren	18	Palmer River / Bike Path Bridge
Pawtucket	15	Pier (State Pier #2), Boat Launch (Taft St.)
Cranston	3	-

Prominently listed sites were those appearing most often through a non-statistical review of responses (approximately 3 or more times for towns indicated less than 50 instances, 5 or more times for towns indicated greater than 50 instances). The towns ranked the highest by number

of instances indicated (Narragansett, Jamestown, Newport) are all located in the lower bay and generally offer a greater length of coastline (and more access points) than most other towns along the bay. Narragansett may also be over-represented due to a significant portion of its coastline being outside or on the fringe of the Narragansett Bay study area (including the Narrow River, Black Point, and Point Judith). Both the species typically caught and times of year indicated in responses varied widely by location, though the species most often listed were generally consistent with the species of interest results of Question 2 (i.e., Striped Bass and Bluefish being the most often reported).

The data collected through responses to this question were more rigorously analyzed for the types of species caught (by season) at locations throughout the Narragansett Bay study area. Provided in the following section (4) of this appendix, the Reported Catch Analysis is intended to complement the *Fish Abundance and Diversity Assessment* contained in Appendix C of this report.

4. *What features do you look for in a good shoreline fishing site? Please rate each of the factors below on a scale of 1 to 5. (1 = not important, 5 = very important)*
5. *Please use the text box below to list any features you look for in a good shoreline fishing site which were not included in Question 4 (above).*

Rank	Feature	Average Importance Rating (1-5)
1	quality fishing location / good catch	4.25
2	not crowded, ample room to cast	3.94
3	night access and parking	3.85
4	ease of access and parking (including walking distance to fishing spot)	3.74
5	access to deeper waters (by pier, bridge, etc.)	3.51
6	cleanliness, trash receptacles, restrooms, etc.	3.50
7	view / pleasant surrounding environment	3.28
8	travel distance to the site	2.95
9	closeness to other related features (bait shops, food, etc.)	2.32
10	public transit, closeness to bicycle and/or bus routes	1.83

In interpreting the results, the average importance rating should be used to evaluate only the *relative* importance of features, as this average value itself has little to no independent meaning. This ranking also only gives a general sense of the importance of features to the shoreline fishing community as a whole; individual preference will undoubtedly vary one angler to the next. Accordingly, only general qualitative conclusions should be drawn from the data, such as:

- Quality fishing (i.e., good opportunity to catch fish of value/interest to the angler) is generally the most important feature of a shoreline fishing site.
- Night access (and parking) is generally more important than the travel distance to the site.
- Public transit and bicycle access are generally less important features desired in a shoreline fishing site.

One should also use caution when comparing features that are closely rated, as it would be inappropriate to infer that "access to deeper waters" is generally a more desired feature than "cleanliness."

For additional features not included in the list (Question 5), the feature most often listed was safety, including safe access and footing on structures fished from, law enforcement presence, safe parking, etc. Several respondents also expressed a desire for more RIDEM patrol and enforcement of fishing regulations at shoreline sites. This question was also used by many respondents to emphasize the importance of a feature listed in Question 4 and/or to comment on the features (or lack thereof) at a specific site.

6. *During the fishing season, approximately how often do you typically fish from shoreline sites within Narragansett Bay? (select one)*

Frequency	Percent Responding (# Responses)
More than 3 times a week	21% (80)
2 to 3 times a week	29% (113)
Once a week	17% (66)
2 to 4 times a month	20% (79)
Once a month or less frequently	9% (35)

The relatively even distribution in fishing frequency (with the exception of the least frequent anglers) indicates that the pool of respondents is a fairly balanced representation of all levels of fishing dedication.

7. *How would you rate the condition of shoreline access to recreational fishing in Narragansett Bay?*

Rating	Percent Responding (# Responses)
Excellent	3% (10)
Good	30% (115)
Fair	46% (177)
Poor	19% (73)

The distribution of responses to this question indicates that in general, the average recreational angler believes that shoreline access to Narragansett Bay can be improved. Approximately two-thirds of respondents rated the condition of shoreline access as either “fair” or “poor”, and many of these respondents elaborated on their rating through additional comments offered in response to Question 9.

8. Is there a location or locations along the Narragansett Bay shoreline that you believe would be ideal for the development of a public recreational fishing pier? (you may list up to three locations)

Responses to this open-ended question varied widely, although approximately 40% of respondents suggested the Old Jamestown Bridge Site. The next most frequently listed location, Rocky Point in Warwick, was indicated by approximately 8% of respondents (the shoreline property at this location is currently privately-owned). Several of the alternative access sites evaluated in this study were also indicated but in very few instances (Quonset Point, Stone Bridge Tiverton, URI Bay Campus).

9. Please use the text box below to provide any additional comments on shore-based recreational fishing and/or suggestions on how the State may improve shore-based fishing access to Narragansett Bay.

As with the other open-ended questions of the survey, responses varied widely. Many respondents used this opportunity to comment on specific shoreline locations of interest to them (problems with the site, ways it could be improved, etc.). There were however certain general sentiments that consistently cropped up in these responses, which can be paraphrased as follows:

1. The public's access to the shoreline is diminishing, and public's right to this access is not being adequately enforced. Right-of-way access is increasingly being denied by abutting landowners through physical barriers, removal of access signs, etc. Access is also being effectively denied by local interests through the removal of parking near many sites (posting of no parking or resident-only parking signs). Many of these respondents requested that the State do more to protect the public's right to shoreline access, also suggesting that the State should increase the public's awareness of shoreline access points through published brochures, internet maps, etc.
2. There is an overall lack of night access (particularly parking) to shoreline fishing in Narragansett Bay. It is well known that the best fishing at certain sites and for certain recreational species occurs after sundown, however many access locations (particularly State parks) close at dusk. Many respondents suggested that some form of a night parking pass system be implemented (either statewide or by site) to allow the public better access to nighttime fishing.
3. The State's fishing regulations (both size and possession limits) are not being adequately enforced. Many respondents reported observing the illegal taking of fish at shoreline sites (by size and quantity) and would like to see a more frequent presence of RIDEM enforcement officers at shoreline sites.

4. Several respondents indicated dissatisfaction with the cleanliness of shoreline sites and would like to see littering laws more properly enforced. Many commenters on this issue also expressed openness to parking or access fees if these funds are used to provide trash receptacles and litter removal.
5. The State needs more viable shoreline access locations for families, persons with disabilities, and the elderly to fish. Several respondents commenting on this issue suggested that a recreational fishing pier would help address this need.
6. Several respondents indicated that they are receptive to the idea of a saltwater fishing license if funds are used to maintain and develop recreational fishing access opportunities.

4. Reported Catch Analysis

To ascertain the actual species caught by season in the vicinity of each evaluation site, a thorough analysis of responses to Question 3 of the survey was undertaken. Survey respondents could enter up to five (5) locations within the study area from which they fish (town and shoreline location/feature), the species typically caught at the site, and the approximate time of year fished (months or seasons). The methodology of this analysis was to group ("bin") responses into defined regions of shoreline within the study area (based on the town and shoreline location/feature indicated), and subsequently tally the recreational species caught in the region by the months/seasons indicated.

Of a possible maximum of 1,935 question responses (5 x 387 survey responses), a total of 1,358 were received. Of these, 1,052 responses indicated valid locations. Locations considered invalid were deficient due to one or more of the following:

- town given, but no response provided for feature/location;
- feature/location given, but not within or near town (example: "Bristol / Goddard Park");
- ambiguous, unintelligible, or otherwise invalid response for feature/location (examples: "from boat", "rocky shore", "all beaches", "anywhere I can").

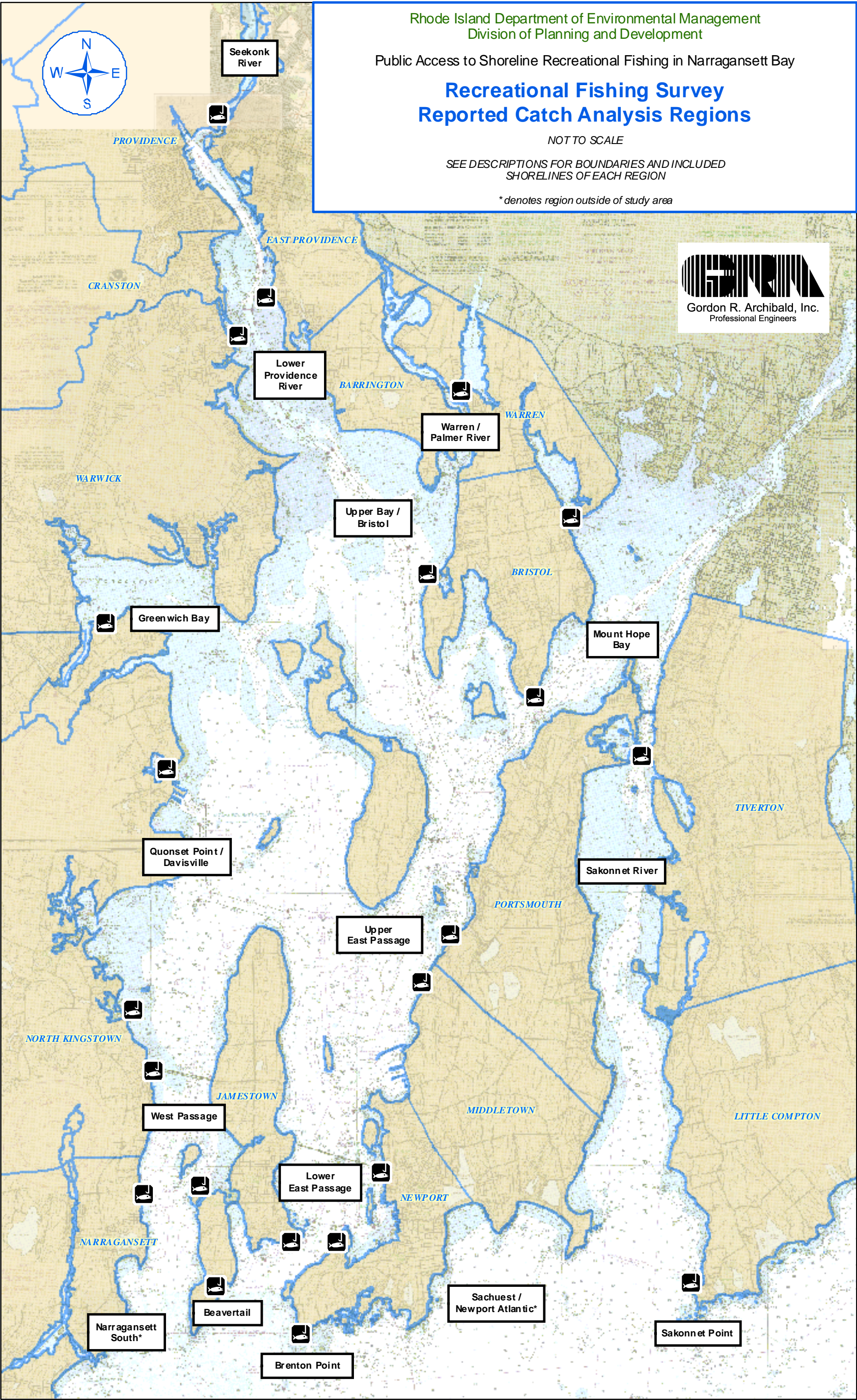
Each valid location response was subsequently binned into one of the sixteen (16) shoreline regions established for the purpose of this analysis. A detailed description of the included shoreline of each analysis region (and the evaluation sites contained within each) is provided below. The general areas of these regions are depicted on the 11" x 17" graphic that follows.

Seekonk River. Shorelines of Providence, East Providence, and Pawtucket along the Seekonk River. Includes India Point and points north.

- Sites: 1. Former State Pier #2, Pawtucket
2. Gano St. Recreation Area, Providence

Lower Providence River. Shorelines of Warwick, Cranston, Providence, East Providence, and Barrington along the Providence River, from Conimicut Point (Warwick) and Nayatt Point (Barrington) inclusive north to the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier. Includes Bold Point (East Providence).

- Sites: 3. Sabin Point, East Providence
20. Salter Grove, Warwick



Warren / Palmer River. Shorelines of Barrington and Warren along the Warren, Barrington, and Palmer Rivers. Includes Hundred Acre Cove.

Sites: 4. Palmer River Bridge, Barrington/Warren

Upper Bay / Bristol. Shorelines of Warwick, Barrington, and Bristol immediately south of the entrance to the Providence River (at Conimicut Point and Nayatt Point), extending south to Rocky Point (Warwick) and Poppasquash Point (Bristol) inclusive. Includes Barrington Town Beach and Rumstick Neck.

Sites: 5. Colt State Park, Bristol

Mount Hope Bay. Shorelines of Portsmouth, Tiverton, and Bristol along Mount Hope Bay, from Mount Hope Bridge northwest and north of the former Sakonnet Railroad Bridge. Includes the Kickemuit River and Common Fence Point (Portsmouth).

Sites: 6. Bristol Narrows
7. Bristol Ferry Landing

Sakonnet River. Shorelines of Middletown, Portsmouth, Little Compton, and Tiverton along the Sakonnet River, north of Taylor's Lane (Little Compton) up to and including former Sakonnet Railroad Bridge.

Sites: 9. Stone Bridge, Tiverton

Greenwich Bay. Shorelines of East Greenwich and Warwick along Greenwich Bay, From Sandy Point (Potowomut) to Warwick Neck inclusive. Includes Greenwich Cove, Chepiwanoxet Point, Apponaug Cove, Oakland Beach, and Warwick Point.

Sites: 21. Goddard Park, Warwick

Quonset Point / Davisville. North Kingstown shoreline in the vicinity of Quonset Point / Davisville, extending north to the Potowomut River and south to Wickford Harbor inclusive. Includes Shore Acres, Compass Rose Beach, Allen Harbor, and Calf Pasture Point.

Sites: 19. QP/D Allen Harbor, North Kingstown

Upper East Passage. Shorelines of Portsmouth and Middletown, extending south to McAllister's Point (Middletown) and north to Arnold Point (Portsmouth) inclusive. Includes Prudence Island T-Wharf.

Sites: 10. Carr Point, Portsmouth
11. Burma Road, Middletown

West Passage. Shorelines of Narragansett, North Kingstown, and Jamestown along the West Passage, north of Bonnet Shores to Conanicut Point (Jamestown) and Poplar Point (North Kingstown). Includes the Old Jamestown Bridge Site and North Kingstown Town Beach.

Sites: 15. Fort Getty, Jamestown
18. Rome Point, North Kingstown
22. URI Narragansett Bay Campus, Narragansett

Lower East Passage. Shorelines of Jamestown and Newport along the Lower East Passage, north of Castle Hill Cove to Gould Island. Includes Potter and Cranston Coves (Jamestown), Goat Island Causeway, Naval Station Newport.

Sites: 13. Van Zandt Pier, Newport
14. Fort Adams Channel Side, Newport
17. Fort Wetherill, Jamestown

Brenton Point. Newport shoreline in the vicinity of Brenton Point and Brenton Point State Park. Includes Castle Hill (north) and King's Beach (east).

Sites: 12. Brenton Point, Newport

Beavertail. Jamestown shoreline in the vicinity of Beavertail Point and Beavertail State Park. Includes Hull Cove.

Sites: 16. Hull Cove, Jamestown

Sakonnet Point. Little Compton shoreline in the vicinity of Sakonnet Point. Includes Sakonnet River north up to Taylor's Lane, Atlantic Ocean / R.I. Sound west to South Shore Beach.

Sites: 8. Sakonnet Point (Little Compton)

Sachuest / Newport Atlantic. Shorelines of Newport and Middletown along R.I. Sound, west of King's Beach up to and including Sachuest Point. Includes Land's End, Cliff Walk, First/Second/Third Beaches, and Easton Point.

Sites: None

Narragansett South. Narragansett shoreline south of Bonnet Shores/Bonnet Point. Includes Narrow River, Narragansett Pier, Town Beach, State Pier #5, Black Point, Scarborough Beach, Point Judith, Point Judith Pond, Galilee, and Jerusalem.

Sites: None (outside of study area)

It is important to note that two of the above regions (Sachuest / Newport Atlantic and Narragansett South) do not contain any of the alternative access sites evaluated under this study; accordingly, no further analysis of responses within these regions was conducted. For the regions in which evaluation sites are located, species caught and the time of year indicated by the response were tabulated into a matrix, with months/seasons as columns and recreational species of interest as rows. The following conventions applied to the tabulation methodology:

- For consistency, seasons were correlated to months as follows: winter = {December, January, February}, spring = {March, April, May}, summer = {June, July, August}, fall = {September, October, November}.
- Counts were taken for the eight most popular recreational species (per responses to Question 2 of the survey). An exception was made for Squid in the Lower East Passage region due to the particularly high count of responses for this species in this region.

- Responses were interpreted to establish a count for each species by month. Representative examples of response interpretation are as follows:

Response	Tabulation
"stripers, blues / spring-fall"	1 is added to the count of Striped Bass for each month March through November; 1 is added to the count of Bluefish for each month March through November.
"fluke / June - Sept."	1 is added to the count of Summer Flounder for each month June through September.
"tautog, black sea bass, bluefish / summer"	1 is added to the count of each species for June, July, and August.
"scup / May"	1 is added to the count of Scup for May.

As with interpreting the town and location/feature indicated by the respondent, certain entries for species and/or times of year were considered invalid for the following reasons:

- valid town and location/feature given, but no species and/or time of year provided;
- unspecific or uncommon species given (examples: "all of the above", "whatever I can catch", "skate");
- unspecific or unmeaningful time of year given (examples: "year-round", "varies", "weekends").

For each region table provided, the number of total responses and valid responses are listed. Through tabulating all valid responses, the resulting tables for each region (provided in the pages that follow) are generally indicative of the species typically caught within each shoreline region and at the evaluation sites which lie within the region. The numbers in these tables represent the number of responses that indicated fishing for the particular species by month. For example: in the Seekonk River region (following page), 22 responses indicated fishing for Stripped Bass in July.

The results of this survey response data analysis have been used to establish the species typically caught at each evaluation site by season (as referenced in the individual site evaluations which comprise this report). These results have also been used to corroborate the general bay-wide trends in recreational species identified in the *Fish Abundance and Diversity Assessment* contained in Appendix C of this report.

Seekonk River

Sites: 1. Former State Pier #2, Pawtucket
2. Gano St. Recreation Area, Providence

Total # of Responses:34

of Valid Responses:33

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			6	20	24	25	22	22	21	16	11	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			7	12	15	17	17	17	14	12	8	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>												
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>							1	1	1	1		
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>												
6. <i>Scup</i>												
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Lower Providence River

Sites: 3. Sabin Point, East Providence
20. Salter Grove, Warwick

Total # of Responses:92

of Valid Responses:83

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>	2	2	22	30	45	55	50	50	42	35	27	3
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			16	22	34	46	44	46	42	35	25	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>			1	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			4	4	4	5	5	5	4	4	4	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>				2	2	4	4	3	3	3	2	
6. <i>Scup</i>												
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Warren / Palmer River

Sites: 4. Palmer River Bridge, Barrington/Warren

Total # of Responses: 40

of Valid Responses: 36

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			8	10	22	23	18	18	15	12	7	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			3	4	8	9	9	9	8	5	3	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>						1	1	1				
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			2	3	7	8	6	6	6	6	4	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>												
6. <i>Scup</i>			1	1	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Upper Bay / Bristol

Sites: 5. Colt State Park, Bristol

Total # of Responses:96

of Valid Responses:93

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			18	34	47	55	53	54	53	48	33	1
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			15	27	39	51	51	57	61	48	32	1
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>				1	2	2	2	2	2	1		
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			2	3	5	5	4	4	6	5	4	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>			2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	
6. <i>Scup</i>			1	2	2	4	5	3	3	3	2	
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Mount Hope Bay

Sites: 6. Bristol Narrows
7. Bristol Ferry Landing

Total # of Responses:29
of Valid Responses:27

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			6	10	17	20	17	15	14	8	8	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			3	7	8	13	13	12	8	6	6	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>						1	1	1				
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			1	3	8	7	5	4	6	2	2	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>												
6. <i>Scup</i>			1	1	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Sakonnet River

Sites: 9. Stone Bridge, Tiverton

Total # of Responses:51

of Valid Responses:49

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			17	19	26	29	30	28	29	28	20	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			15	16	22	25	27	26	29	25	19	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>				1	2	3	3	3	3	2	1	
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			7	9	15	11	10	10	10	8	5	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>			1	1	1				1	1	1	
6. <i>Scup</i>			3	3	4	6	9	7	6	4	4	
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Greenwich Bay

Sites: 21. Goddard Park, Warwick

Total # of Responses:57

of Valid Responses:52

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			14	25	35	35	31	30	27	25	12	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			12	19	31	32	28	27	28	23	12	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>					1	4	4	4	3	2	1	
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>			4	7	10	7	3	3	5	5	2	
6. <i>Scup</i>						1	1	1	1			
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Quonset Point / Davisville

Sites: 19. QP/D Allen Harbor, North Kingstown

Total # of Responses:33

of Valid Responses:27

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			5	5	7	14	15	15	13	11	9	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			3	3	5	12	13	15	14	11	9	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>			3	5	5	9	9	8	5	5	4	
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>						1	1	1	1	1	1	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>												
6. <i>Scup</i>						3	3	3	2	1	1	
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>			1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	

Upper East Passage

Sites: 10. Carr Point, Portsmouth
11. Burma Road, Middletown

Total # of Responses: 21

of Valid Responses: 19

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			5	5	8	14	12	12	7	7	6	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			4	4	6	9	9	9	8	7	5	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>												
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>				1	1	4	4	4	2			
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>												
6. <i>Scup</i>				1	1	2	3	3	3	1		
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>						1	1	1				
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

West Passage

Sites: 15. Fort Getty, Jamestown
 18. Rome Point, North Kingstown
 22. URI Bay Campus, Narragansett

Total # of Responses: 65
 # of Valid Responses: 55

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			9	15	22	37	37	37	30	28	21	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			6	12	17	31	32	32	28	25	19	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>			4	6	10	22	24	24	17	12	10	
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			1	3	3	5	5	5	6	6	6	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
6. <i>Scup</i>			1	1	2	9	10	10	7	3	3	
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>			1	1	1	3	4	4	3	1	1	
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>				2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	

Lower East Passage

Sites: 13. Van Zandt Pier, Newport
 14. Fort Adams Channel Side, Newport
 17. Fort Wetherill, Jamestown

Total # of Responses: 93

of Valid Responses: 89

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			12	17	29	42	46	45	44	39	28	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			8	14	22	28	34	35	34	31	22	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>			5	6	12	23	24	24	15	13	10	
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			1	2	4	9	10	11	9	8	5	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>												
6. <i>Scup</i>			3	4	4	10	13	14	11	10	8	
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>						1	1	1				
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												
► <i>Squid</i>			8	14	21	14	10	10	8	8	4	

Brenton Point

Sites: 12. Brenton Point, Newport

Total # of Responses: 17

of Valid Responses: 16

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			4	6	9	12	13	12	13	12	9	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			3	4	5	7	8	7	8	8	5	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>												
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			2	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>												
6. <i>Scup</i>				1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Beavertail

Sites: 16. Hull Cove, Jamestown

Total # of Responses:79

of Valid Responses:69

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			16	19	28	52	52	52	53	47	37	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			11	14	21	33	33	32	33	27	21	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>			1	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>			9	12	15	14	14	15	21	21	17	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>												
6. <i>Scup</i>			1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1		
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>												
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Sakonnet Point

Sites: 8. Sakonnet Point (Little Compton)

Total # of Responses:22

of Valid Responses:20

Fish Species	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall			W
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. <i>Striped Bass</i>			4	5	9	15	15	16	15	14	14	
2. <i>Bluefish</i>			2	3	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	
3. <i>Summer Flounder (Fluke)</i>			1	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	
4. <i>Tautog (Blackfish)</i>					1	3	3	3	3	3	3	
5. <i>Weakfish (Squeteague)</i>												
6. <i>Scup</i>			2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	
7. <i>Black Sea Bass</i>						1	1	1	1	1	1	
8. <i>Winter Flounder (Blackback)</i>												

Attachment 1

2005 Online Recreational Fishing Survey Form

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Division of Planning and Development
2005 Online Recreational Fishing Survey
Shore-based Fishing Within Narragansett Bay**

Thank you for participating in the 2005 RIDEM Online Recreational Fishing Survey. This survey is being conducted as part of an ongoing assessment of shore-based access to recreational fishing in Narragansett Bay (including Mt. Hope Bay and the Sakonnet River). The results of this survey will be used to assess need and demand for shore-based recreational fishing facilities and will help guide future development initiatives by the State.

The focus of this survey is on marine recreational fishing conducted from the shoreline, i.e., features such as docks, piers, jetties, bridges, beaches, etc. Freshwater fishing and recreational fishing by boat, while not included in this study, may be the subject of future investigations by the RIDEM.

Please fill out the short questionnaire below. When completed, please click on the "SUBMIT" button at the bottom of the page. Thank you for your time and participation.

1.

Age:

Gender: M ☐ F ☐

Town of Residence:

2.

When fishing, what recreational species are you trying to catch? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Bluefish
- ☐ Striped Bass
- ☐ Scup
- ☐ Black Sea Bass
- ☐ Tautog / Blackfish
- ☐ Menhaden
- ☐ Fluke (Summer Flounder)
- ☐ Winter Flounder / Blackback
- ☐ Mackerel
- ☐ Weakfish
- ☐ Squid
- ☐ Other (Specify)

3.

Please list up to five (5) shoreline locations within Narragansett Bay at which you fish. For each location listed, please indicate what species you typically catch at the site, and the approximate time of year you fish at this location (month or season). For location, please be as specific as possible.

Location 1

- (a) Town
- (b) Shoreline feature/location within town
- (c) What type(s) of fish do you typically catch at this location?
- (d) What month(s) or seasons(s) of year do you fish at this location?

Location 2

- (a) Town
- (b) Shoreline feature/location within town
- (c) What type(s) of fish do you typically catch at this location?
- (d) What month(s) or seasons(s) of year do you fish at this location?

Location 3

- (a) Town
- (b) Shoreline feature/location within town
- (c) What type(s) of fish do you typically catch at this location?
- (d) What month(s) or seasons(s) of year do you fish at this location?

Location 4

- (a) Town
- (b) Shoreline feature/location within town
- (c) What type(s) of fish do you typically catch at this location?
- (d) What month(s) or seasons(s) of year do you fish at this location?

Location 5

- (a) Town
- (b) Shoreline feature/location within town
- (c) What type(s) of fish do you typically catch at this location?
- (d) What month(s) or seasons(s) of year do you fish at this location?

4. What features do you look for in a good shoreline fishing site? Please rate each of the factors below on a scale of 1 to 5. (1 = not important, 5 = very important)

	1	2	3	4	5
quality fishing location / good catch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
access to deeper waters (by pier, bridge, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
travel distance to the site	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
closeness to other related features (bait shops, food, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ease of access and parking (including walking distance to fishing spot)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
night access and parking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
view / pleasant surrounding environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
not crowded, ample room to cast	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
cleanliness, trash receptacles, restrooms, etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
public transit, closeness to bicycle and/or bus routes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Please use the text box below to list any features you look for in a good shoreline fishing site which were not included in Question 4 (above).

6. During the fishing season, approximately how often do you typically fish from shoreline sites within Narragansett Bay? (select one)

- ☐ More than 3 times a week
☐ 2 to 3 times a week
☐ Once a week
☐ 2 to 4 times a month
☐ Once a month or less frequently

7. How would you rate the condition of shoreline access to recreational fishing in Narragansett Bay?

- ☐ Excellent
☐ Good
☐ Fair
☐ Poor

8. Is there a location or locations along the Narragansett Bay shoreline that you believe would be ideal for the development of a public recreational fishing pier? (you may list up to three locations)

9. Please use the text box below to provide any additional comments on shore-based recreational fishing and/or suggestions on how the State may improve shore-based fishing access to Narragansett Bay.



Thank you for completing the 2005 Online Recreational Fishing Survey. Your participation will help the RIDEM in evaluating and improving recreational fishing opportunities throughout Rhode Island. When you have completed the above questionnaire to your satisfaction, click on the SUBMIT button below. Please click the submit button only once.

SUBMIT

Questions or comments regarding this survey may be directed to James McGinn, P.E. at james.mcgin@dem.ri.gov.